



The breathtaking beauty of the great outdoors is evident throughout the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas.

The Texas Pineywoods stretch from the urban landscape of Houston to the Louisiana border and are home to the Angelina, Davy Crockett, Sabine and Sam Houston National Forests.

These four national forests have an amazing diversity of plant and animal life scattered across gently rolling hills, hardwood bottomlands and world-class fishing lakes.

North of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex are the Lyndon B. Johnson and Caddo National Grasslands. Purchased by the government in the 1930s, these lands are made up of abandoned farms and ranches that suffered severe soil erosion but are now a thriving testament to proper land management.

Whether it's boating, fishing and swimming in the numerous lakes and reservoirs, or camping off the beaten path, the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas offer an experience like no other.

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Coral bean adds a splash of red to the forest.

Outdoor Adventures



Explore Natural Treasures Throughout Texas

With a wealth of recreation activities within easy driving distance, more and more vacationers are discovering the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas.

The Forest Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, manages more than 675,000 acres of public land in Texas consisting of four national forests and two national grasslands.

The four national forests in Texas are the Angelina, Davy Crockett, Sabine and Sam Houston.

The national grasslands are north of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex and include the Caddo and the Lyndon B. Johnson.

The National Forests in Texas provide a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities including 25 developed recreation areas, nearly 200 miles of hiking trails, scenic areas, wilderness areas, an off-road vehicle trail and more than 100 miles of horse trails.

Camping is offered on a first-come, first-served basis in developed recreation areas. A daily use fee is charged at most areas.

Campground facilities generally include tent pads, picnic tables, parking spurs for trailers, lantern-holding posts, fireplaces, potable water and toilets. Some areas also have showers, electricity, swimming beaches, boat

ramps, amphitheaters, interpretive trails and concession services.

Excellent opportunities for bird watching and wildlife viewing abound. The National Forests in Texas lie in the path of warblers, vireos and other species of neotropical migrants.

The Davy Crockett and Sam Houston National Forests are located where the pine forests of the Deep South join the blackland prairies. The result is a mix of eastern and western species of birds and other wildlife found nowhere else in the state.

The Sabine and Angelina National Forests are on the shores of Toledo Bend and Sam Rayburn Reservoirs, two large lakes featuring fishing and other water sports. Lake Conroe and Lake Livingston offer water-related outdoor recreation opportunities on and near the Sam Houston National Forest.

Primitive camping is allowed anywhere in the general forest area, except during hunting season or unless posted otherwise. All campers are encouraged to practice “leave no trace” camping, leaving an area in the same natural condition in which it was found.

The Caddo National Grasslands contains three lakes. The largest, Lake Coffee Mill, is 651 acres with a developed recreation area with 13 picnic units and a boat ramp.

Lake Crockett is 450 acres with two developed recreation areas—West Lake Crockett has 11 camping units, while the east side has picnic areas and a boat ramp.

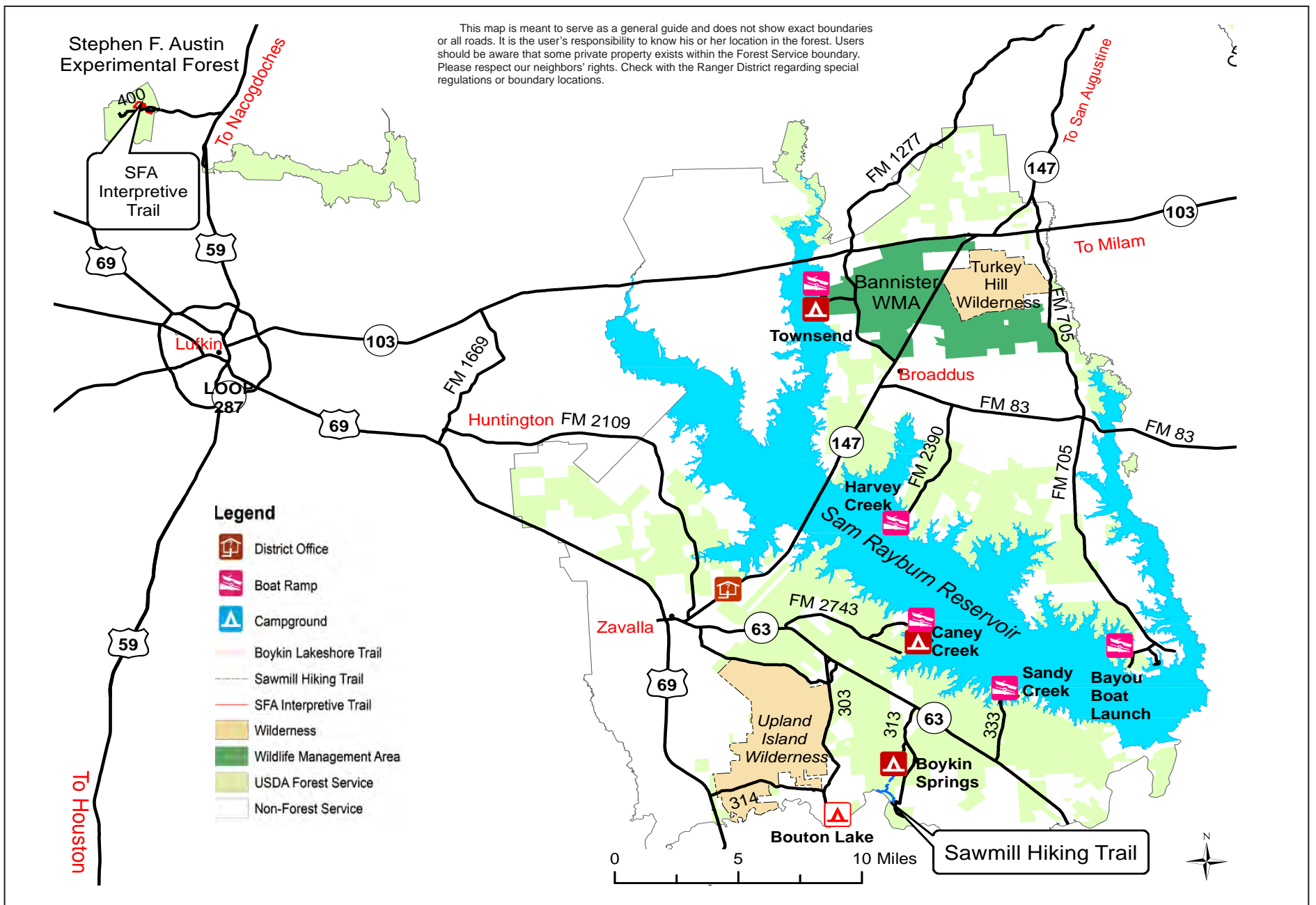
The 45-acre Lake Fannin offers fishing from the east side and an earthen boat launch site.

In the Lyndon B. Johnson National Grasslands, Black Creek Lake Recreation Area has picnic units, and a boat ramp.

Cottonwood Lake is north of Black Creek Lake and has a boat ramp, and connecting the two areas is the Cottonwood-Black Creek Hiking Trail with nearly 75 miles of multi-use trails near Cottonwood Lake.



Angelina National Forest



Located in the heart of the Pineywoods, the 153,160-acre Angelina National Forest spans Angelina, Nacogdoches, San Augustine and Jasper counties. The forest lies in the Neches River Basin and on the north and south shores of Sam Rayburn Reservoir, formed by the construction of Sam Rayburn Dam in the early 1960s.



Old Aldridge

The Aldridge Sawmill and town site is located on a spur of the Sawmill Hiking Trail south of Boykin Springs Recreation Area.

The sawmill was built in 1905 and ran on a limited basis until 1923 when it was closed.

Although the town's buildings are gone, the shells of the four concrete mill buildings, various concrete foundations, the mill pond and portions of the old railroad tram still remain.

Hikers are welcome, but due to archeological concerns, off-road vehicles and horses are not allowed in the area.

As a structure listed on the National Registry of Historic Places, no digging, collecting of artifacts, use of metal detectors, damaging or defacing of the site is allowed.

Boykin Springs

Boykin Springs Recreation Area has undergone extensive renovations



since it was damaged by Hurricane Rita in 2005. The historic picnic shelter and spillway have been restored to its classic 1930s era look and is a favorite spot for camping, picnicking, hiking and photography.



Sam Rayburn Reservoir

In the middle of the Angelina National Forest is the fishing, boating and skiing paradise that is Sam Rayburn Reservoir.

At 114,500 acres, it is the largest lake wholly located within Texas. Forest Service boat ramps are located at Townsend, Harvey Creek, Bayou Boat Launch, Sandy Creek and Caney Creek where there are also camping and picknicking spots.

Additional boat ramps are located at numerous U.S. Army Corps of Engineer parks on the reservoir.

Bouton Lake

Bouton Lake Recreation Area is on a 12-acre natural lake near the Neches River and offers primitive camping, fishing and hiking amidst hardwoods and cypress trees.

Visitors should note that the west side of Bouton Lake is privately owned and trespassing is forbidden.

Wilderness

The 5,473-acre Turkey Hill and the 13,390-acre Upland Island Wilderness Areas are set aside to allow the earth's natural processes to shape and influence the land. Hunting, horseback riding and hiking are allowed, while bicycles and motorized equipment are not.

Wildlife

Principal game in the forest are deer, hog, squirrel, wild turkey, woodcock, quail, dove and duck.

Fish and waterfowl abound in Sam Rayburn Reservoir and the habitat also offers resting grounds for migratory birds before they fly south toward the Gulf Coast.

The 20,700-acre Bannister Wildlife Management Area is located north of Lake Sam Rayburn and is a prime hunting area.

Texas Parks and Wildlife acts as an advisor concerning wildlife management and it is a designated Eastern Wild Turkey restoration site.



Endangered species

Endangered species
During winter, bald eagles have been seen soaring over the lake, perched on a flooded snag or in pines along shorelines.

The red-cockaded woodpecker is also found throughout the forest. This small bird makes its home by pecking cavities in large, older living pine trees, and was designated an endangered species in 1973. Wherever these birds are found, emphasis is directed toward providing the special habitat they require.



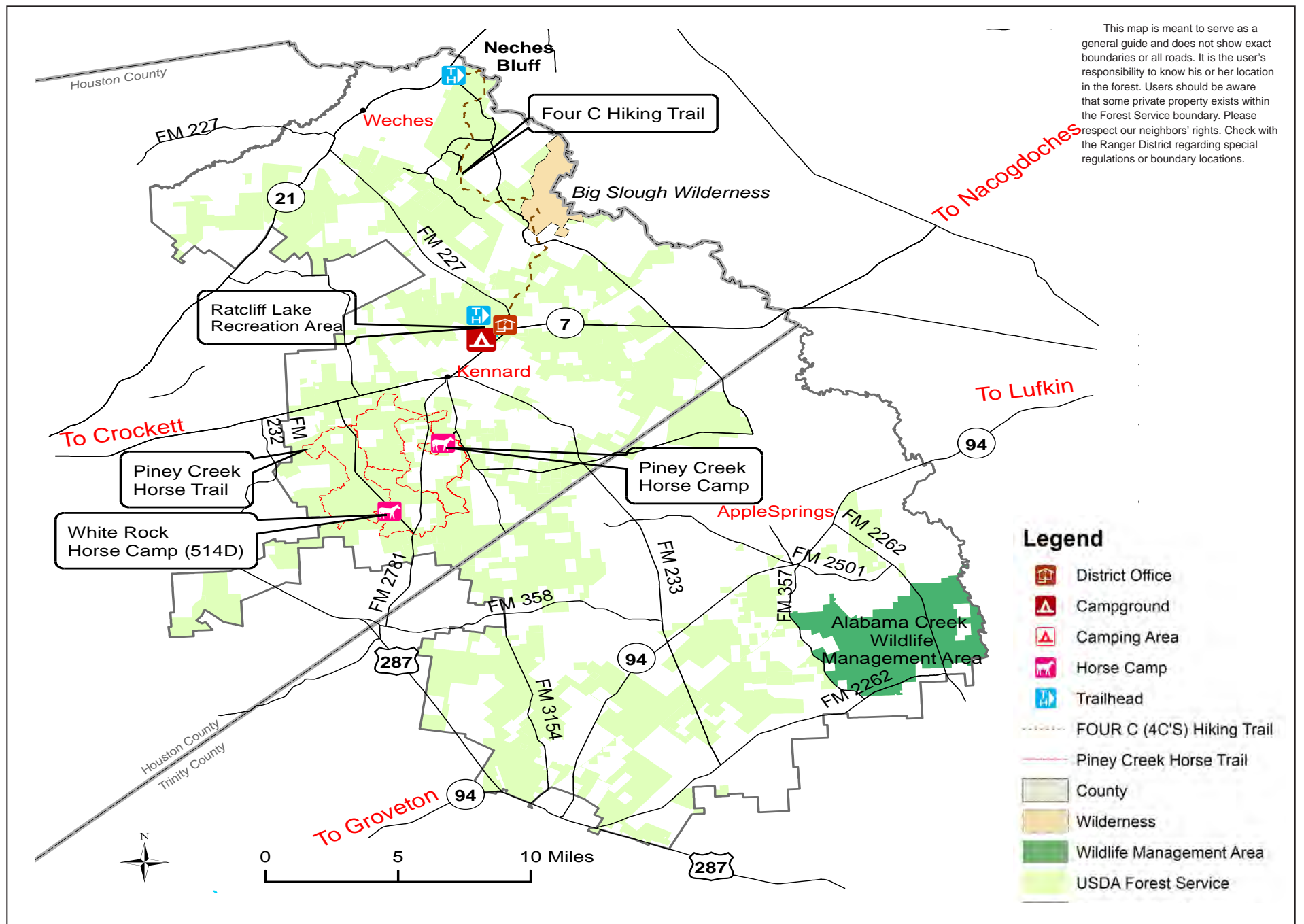
Timber

When the U.S. Forest Service acquired what is now the Angelina National Forest in the 1930s, most of the land was cut over, and almost no commercial timber was left standing.

Today, the Angelina is a second- or third-growth forest and most of the land is productive for growing trees.

Timber management practices are used to provide quality habitat for the wildlife as well as restore, enhance and maintain longleaf pine and shortleaf pine-oak communities.

Davy Crockett National Forest



Named for the legendary pioneer, Davy Crockett National Forest contains more than 160,600 acres of woodland streams, recreation areas and wildlife habitat.

Located in Houston and Trinity counties, the forest is centrally located within the Neches River and Trinity River basins.

Ratcliff Lake

Built in 1936 by the Civilian Conservation Corps, Ratcliff Lake Recreation Area surrounds a 45-acre lake that was a log pond for the Central Coal and Coke Company Sawmill that logged the area from 1902 to 1920.

The area offers visitors camping, picnicking, a swimming beach and bathhouse in a beautiful forest setting often featured in travel magazines.

The picnic shelters and camping sites may be reserved from the National Reservation System online at www.recreation.gov or by calling 877-444-6777.

Four C Hiking Trail

The Four C Hiking Trail begins at Ratcliff Lake Recreation Area and ends at the Neches Bluff Overlook. It was named one of the top 10 trails in Texas by Texas Monthly magazine.

Named for the Central Coal and Coke Company, it follows abandoned tramways through the national forest except for a one-mile segment through privately owned land, the Four C Trail



stays on national forest land.

Walnut Creek Campsite is located on a small ridge about midway on the trail, and the Pond Campsite is near mile 13.

Spring and fall are the best times of year to experience the trail, but the trail can be hiked year-round. Wearing bright orange is a must when hiking during hunting season (October through January). The Four C Trail is Horses, bikes and off-road vehicles are not allowed on the trail.



Piney Creek Horse Trail

The Piney Creek Horse Trail meanders 54 miles along Forest Service roads, tram roads, pipeline rights-of-way, game trails and highways. It is mostly on national forest land, but there are crossings on private property and public roads.

A \$10 per day fee covers camping at

either of the two horse camps and use of the horse trail system. A self-service pay station is available at the site. An annual permit can be purchased for \$50 per vehicle at the Ranger's office.

Trail riding groups of more than 75 persons (including spectators) need a special-use permit and should contact the Ranger's office three months prior to the event.

During rainy weather, parts of the trail may flood.

The best seasons for using the trail are fall and spring, and camping is permitted anywhere along the trail or at one of the horse camps. Vault toilets are at each location but potable water and designated campsites are at the Piney Creek camp.

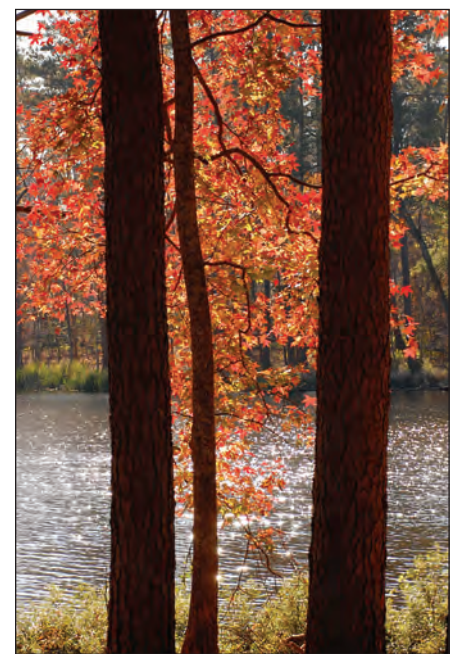
Big Slough Wilderness Area

The 3,639-acre Big Slough Wilderness was set aside under the Texas Wilderness Act of 1984 and remains natural and pristine and to provide opportunities for solitude and challenge.

During wet periods much of the area is covered by water, and it is possible to canoe along a four-mile loop from the Neches to Big Slough and back.

Alabama Creek Wildlife Management Area

The Alabama Creek Wildlife Management Area provides for intensive wildlife management.



Principal game includes white-tailed deer, turkey, feral hog, waterfowl, dove, squirrel, quail and frogs.

In addition, the endangered red-cockaded woodpecker thrives within a carefully managed old-growth habitat in the forest.

This area was established to provide improved hunting and to demonstrate how wildlife habitat and ecosystem management are coordinated to the benefit of all resources.



Sabine National Forest

The 160,806-acre Sabine National Forest is the easternmost of the four national forests in Texas and forms part of the boundary between Texas and Louisiana. The forest is situated on the western slopes of the Sabine River watershed within Sabine, San Augustine, Shelby, Jasper and Newton counties.



Recreation

The eastern part of the Sabine National Forest outlines Toledo Bend Reservoir, the fifth largest man-made reservoir in the U.S. and a nationally known recreation attraction. Recreation developments adjacent to Toledo Bend Reservoir are extensive. Private facilities range from fish camps with marinas and primitive camping, to highly developed lodge and motel-type facilities.

Boating

Toledo Bend Reservoir offers the best in fishing and scenic shorelines. The Forest Service and private businesses provide boat ramps at all major recreation areas and other selected spots on the reservoir, giving boaters a wide choice of access points to the lake.

Hunting and Fishing

The Forest Service and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department work together to offer prime habitat for game and fish populations in national forests. Moore Plantation is a 26,500-acre wildlife management area in Sabine County cooperatively managed by these two agencies. It is known for excellent deer hunting. Toledo Bend Reservoir is a nationally known bass fishing lake, and numerous tournaments are held here each year.



Wilderness

Indian Mounds is a 12,369-acre congressionally designated wilderness area set aside to allow the earth's natural processes to shape and influence the land. Hunting, horseback riding, and hiking are allowed. Bicycles, other wheeled vehicles and mechanized and motorized equipment are not allowed.

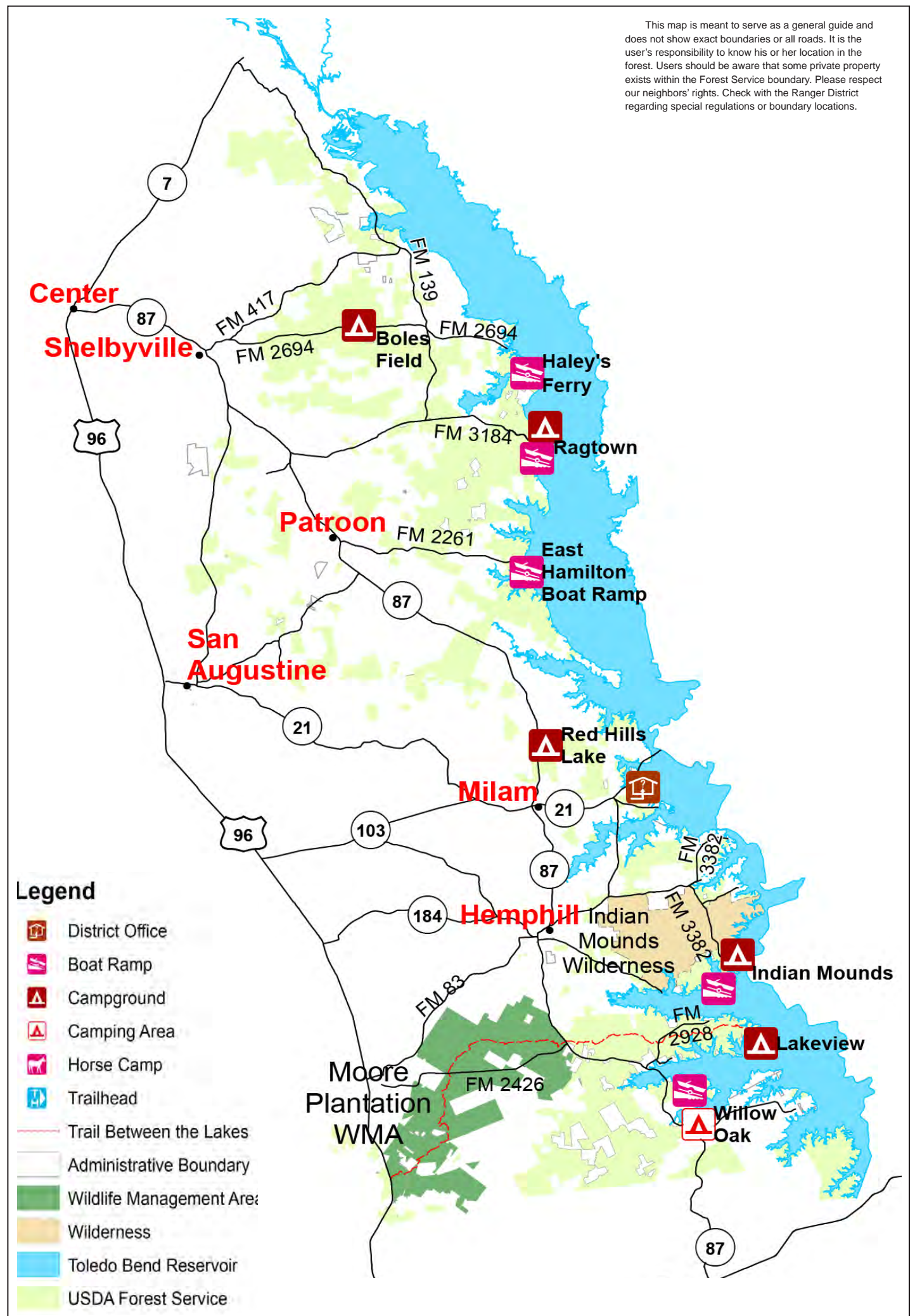
Camping and Picnicking

Family camping areas in the Sabine National Forest are designed for those wanting "elbow room" in a natural forest setting. Several units share a water tap, trash receptacle and toilet facilities.

Most parking spaces are suitable for camping trailers.

Red Hills Lake has picnic facilities, a swimming beach and dump station along with electrical hookups at several sites.

Boles Field has a picnic shelter



available for family reunions and other day-use activities; reservations need to be made in advance for shelters and the amphitheater.

Boles Field is also home to the National Cemetery Hall of Fame for Foxhounds. Prized hunting dogs from across the country are buried in this picturesque setting. The area is a

tradition with local fox hunters who organize hunting events in the area, and it offers excellent opportunities for hunting in the nearby forest.

Willow Oak boat ramp is open and provides several walk-in campsites.

Developed campgrounds require a fee, but there are many opportunities for dispersed camping throughout the forest.

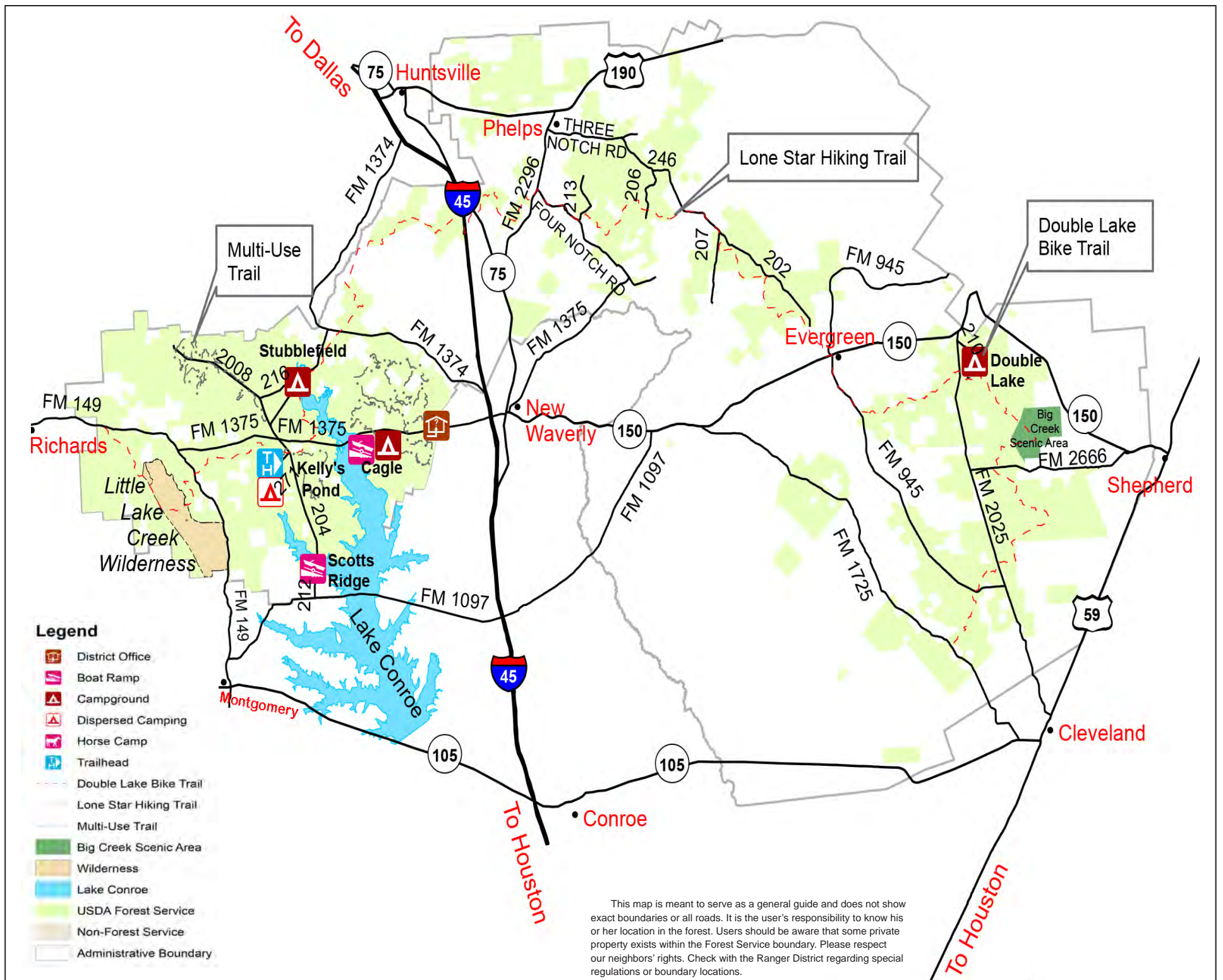


Hiking

The forest is the perfect place for hiking, horseback riding and bicycling (no bicycles are allowed in the wilderness), and the many miles of roads through the woods are perfect for a scenic drive especially in the spring and fall.

Hiking is best in the early spring when the forest is filled with native wildflowers, or in fall when the hardwood leaves change color. Be sure to wear hunter orange during hunting season.

Sam Houston National Forest



shortleaf pines dominate ridgetops that are separated by a wide variety of hardwoods along creek channels.

Big Creek Scenic Area

The 1,920-acre Big Creek Scenic Area is noted for its unique plants and scenic qualities. No camping is allowed in Big Creek Scenic Area.

The Lone Star Hiking Trail winds through the area and features four trail loops of various lengths.



Camping/Swimming/Fishing

There are three developed campgrounds in the Sam Houston National Forest: Cagle, Double Lake and Stubblefield, and a primitive camping area at Kelly's Pond.

Cagle Recreation Area has 48 family campsites with grills, tent pads, electric hookups and connections for water and wastewater for recreational vehicles.

There are restrooms, showers and a boat dock. Paved and natural surface trails wind through the popular campground.

Scotts Ridge Recreation Area, on the west side of Lake Conroe, has a boat launch, swimming beach, picnic sites and three picnic shelters.

The boat launch is open year-round,



and the day-use area is open during the spring and summer.

On the east side of the forest is Double Lake Recreation Area, built in the 1930s by the Civilian Conservation Corps. This historic campground includes family and group camping, picnicking, a picnic shelter, swimming area, a concession stand and bathhouse. It is also home to a popular mountain bike trail.

Stubblefield Recreation Area, on the north shore of Lake Conroe, has 30 camping sites and access to the Lone Star Hiking Trail.

Kelly's Pond, just off the Multi-Use Trail and west of Lake Conroe, offers primitive camping.

Lake Livingston and Lake Conroe are both popular weekend destinations noted for black bass and year-round fishing.

Multi-use Trails

Riding off-road vehicles (dirt bikes and four-wheelers), mountain bikes and horses are some of the most popular recreational uses of the Sam Houston National Forest. Special areas and trails are designated and developed for these uses.

Four trailheads along the multi-use trails provide starting points and parking areas. Please stay on the marked trails. Pipelines, powerlines, and other rights-



of-way are closed to off-road-vehicle use except at designated crossings.

During wet, rainy days the trails are closed, so check with the Ranger's office before planning a trip.

Wildlife

The Sam Houston National Forest is the largest Wildlife Management Area in Texas. The Forest Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department cooperatively manage the forest for game as well as non-game users.

Deer is the most popular game animal in the forest followed closely by squirrels, ducks and hogs.

Lake Conroe and the surrounding forest provide habitat for the bald eagle and during winter months, they have been seen soaring over the lake, perched on a flooded snag or in a tall pine along the shoreline.

The endangered red-cockaded woodpecker also makes it home in the forest and is best seen early morning and late in the evening.

The Sam Houston National Forest is located 50 miles north of Houston and contains 163,037 acres of land in Montgomery, Walker and San Jacinto counties. The forest is intermingled with private timber lands, small farms and a growing number of subdivisions.

Lone Star Hiking Trail

The 129-mile Lone Star Hiking Trail, a portion of which has gained National Recreation Trail status, winds through Double Lake, Stubblefield and Kelly's Pond campgrounds.

Except during deer hunting season when camping is restricted to designated camps, primitive camping is allowed off the trail. Hikers should wear bright orange clothing during hunting season from October through January. Drinking water is available at Double Lake and Stubblefield recreation areas.

The trail, which is open to foot traffic only, is open year-round, but winter and spring are the most popular seasons for hiking due to the mild climate.

Little Lake Creek Wilderness

The 3,855-acre Little Lake Creek Wilderness, five miles north of Montgomery, is home to a rich ecological mosaic. Loblolly and

Caddo and Lyndon B. Johnson National Grasslands



The 17,873-acre Caddo and 20,313-acre Lyndon B. Johnson (LBJ) National Grasslands are located in north-central Texas, northeast and northwest of the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex in Fannin, Wise and Montague counties.

Before the federal government purchased them in the late 1930s, the grasslands were mostly abandoned farms and ranches suffering severe soil erosion from poor agricultural practices. Since 1955, the national grasslands in Texas, along with the national forests, have been managed by the Forest Service.

The national grasslands in Texas are part of the western and eastern cross-timbers vegetation type, with both hardwood forests and open grasslands. The national grasslands provide recreation areas and lakes for camping, swimming, hunting, fishing and habitat for wildlife.

Grasslands management restores native prairies and improves wildlife habitat and the Forest Service reseeds rangeland, provides water, builds and maintains fences and conducts prescribed burning.

Windmills and ponds provide water for livestock.

Oil and gas wells are a common sight on the Caddo and LBJ National Grasslands. The United States does not own all the mineral rights for these lands because a few of the sellers retained permanent mineral ownership.

The counties in which national grasslands lie receive 25 percent of the income from mineral leasing and royalties as well as from grazing permits, special land use fees and recreation fees. These funds are returned to the counties to be used for schools and roads.

Wildlife

White-tailed deer, small mammals, coyotes, bobcats, red fox, waterfowl, bobwhite quail, turkey and songbirds thrive in the diverse habitats provided by the grasslands.

Largemouth bass, blue, channel catfish and perch are common catches at the grasslands' many lakes.

In spring, migratory neotropical birds from Central and South America make their way across the grasslands, and wildflowers blanket the gently rolling hills in color.

Recreation

The national grasslands offer various facilities for camping, picnicking and other outdoor activities. Popular areas are East and West Lake Crockett Recreation Areas, Coffee Mill Recreation Area, Black Creek Recreation Area, TADRA Point Trailhead, Bois D'Arc Trailhead and Cottonwood Lake.

Visitors to the national grasslands should be extremely careful with fire because the prairie grasses can be highly flammable.

TADRA Multi-Use Trail - LBJ

The 75-mile TADRA Multi-Use Trail is open to horseback riding, mountain biking and hiking. Access to the trail is provided at the TADRA Point Trailhead.

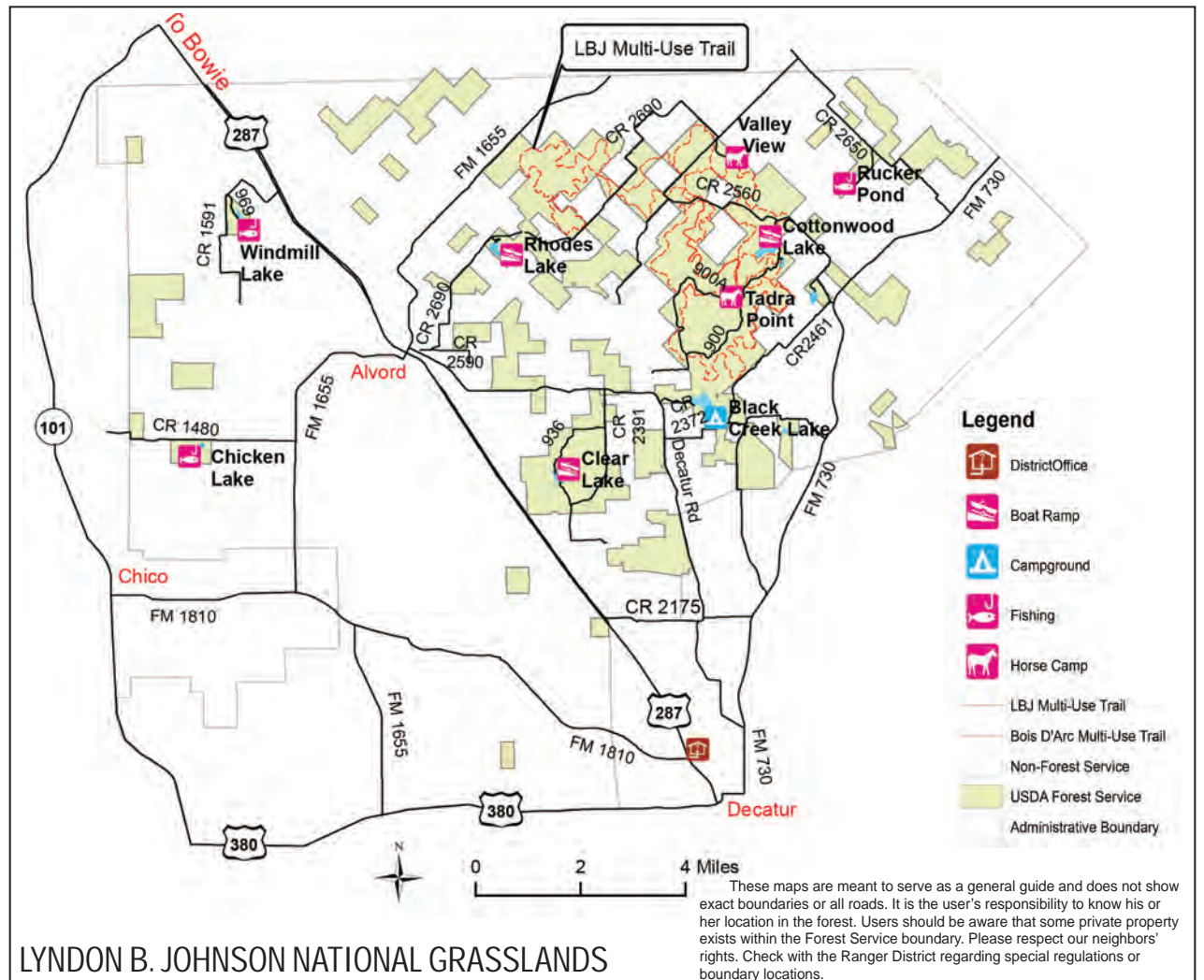
The trail system consists of five loops that begin and end at TADRA Point. Additionally, open areas of the grasslands are popular for cross-country horseback riding. Because soils on the LBJ and Caddo Grasslands are susceptible to erosion, vehicle travel is only allowed on designated roads.

Bois D'Arc Multi-Use Trail - Caddo

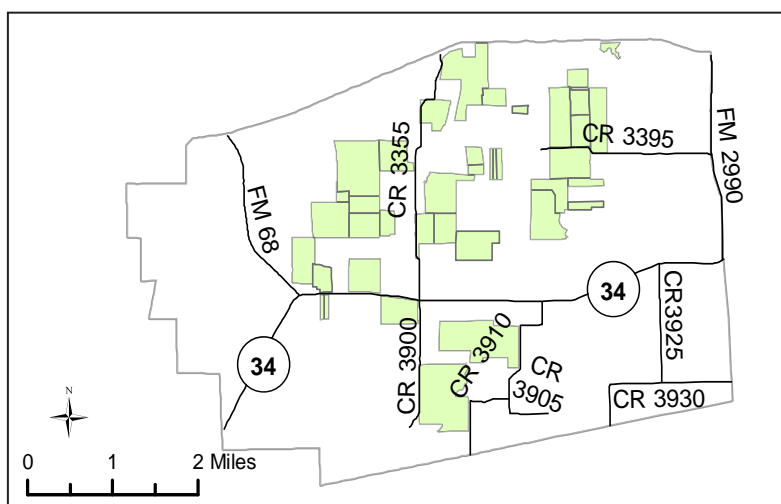
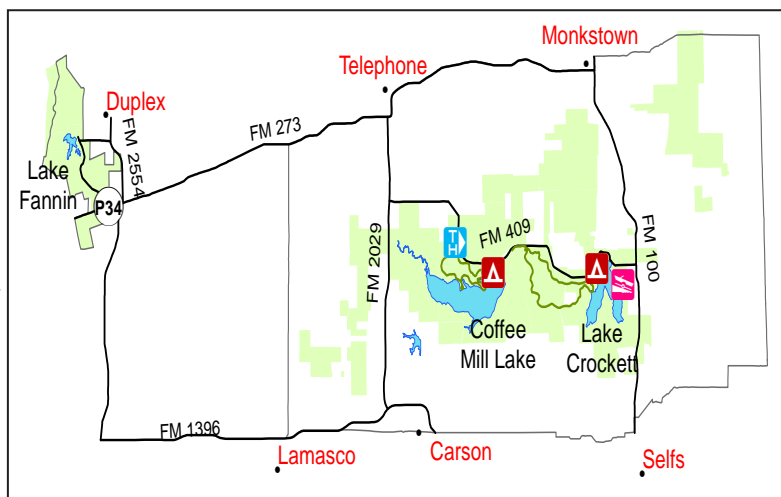
The trail system consists of three loops that begin and end at the Bois D'Arc Trailhead. The trail is 28 miles and offers views of Coffee Mill Lake and Lake Crockett.

Caddo Wildlife Management Area

A diverse habitat among the grasses and trees of the area attracts small mammals, red and gray fox, waterfowl, gulls, quail, white-tailed deer, wild turkey and a variety of other birds. Visitors have excellent opportunities for



CADDO NATIONAL GRASSLANDS



Windmills are a common sight in the grasslands.

wildlife viewing and photography.

The 16,240-acre area attracts many hunters, recreational visitors and wildlife. Deer hunters are required to have the necessary permits issued by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

Fishing

There are approximately 400 lakes and ponds, ranging from less than an acre to more than 40 acres on the LBJ National Grasslands.

Lakes with boat launches include Black Creek, Cottonwood, Clear and Rhodes Lakes, but caution is advised as some ramps are primitive.

Catfish, largemouth bass and perch are common catches at most of the lakes and ponds. Crappie have been caught in Cottonwood and Clear Lakes. In addition, there are numerous small ponds that are not accessible by road that offer great fishing opportunities.

In Wise County, the 30-acre Black Creek Lake is a developed recreational site with picnic spots, walk-in

campsites, a concrete boat ramp and a four-mile hiking trail. It is located off CR 2360 and CR 2461 with access from FS 902. Primitive camping is allowed off FS 922.

Cottonwood Lake is approximately 40 acres with a concrete boat ramp. Little Cottonwood Lake, located 300 yards to the southeast, is 10 acres. Both lakes can be reached from FS 900, which runs between CR 2560 and CR 2474.

The 18-acre Windmill Lake is for fly fishing only, and is located off CR 1591.

The 650-acre Coffee Mill Lake, off FM 409 in Fannin County, has a paved boat ramp, tent camping and limited RV space.

Lake Crockett, at 450-acres, is noted for crappie fishing and is routinely stocked. The east side offers a paved boat ramp, fishing pier and a picnic area. The west side can accommodate RVs and has 12 campsites and hiking trails. Entrances to both the east and west sides are off FM 409.

For More Information

Angelina
National Forest
111 Walnut Ridge Road
Zavalla, TX 75980
936-897-1068



Davy Crockett
National Forest
18551 Hwy. 7 East
Kennard, TX 75847
936-655-2299



Sabine
National Forest
5050 Hwy. 21 East
Hemphill, TX 75959
409-625-1940
Toll Free: 866-235-1750



Sam Houston
National Forest
394 FM 1375 West
New Waverly, TX 77358
936-344-6205
Toll Free: 888-361-6908



Caddo/LBJ
National Grasslands
1400 US 81/287
P.O. Box 507
Decatur, TX 76234
940-627-5475



Maps and general information
can be obtained from:

Forest Supervisor's
Office
National Forests and
Grasslands in Texas
2221 North Raguet St.
Lufkin, TX 75904
936-639-8501
TDD: 936-639-8560



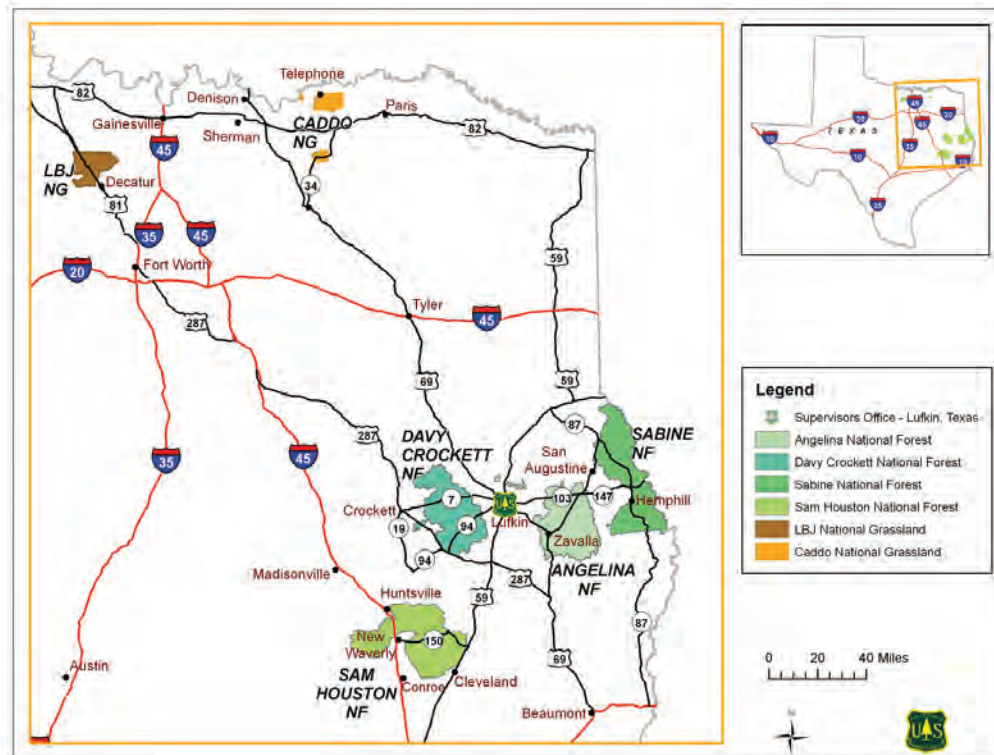
Sam Rayburn Reservoir
U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
Route 3, Box 486
Jasper, TX 75951
409-384-5716



Toledo Bend Reservoir
Sabine River Authority
Route 1, Box 270
Burkeville, TX 75932
409-565-2273



Texas Parks
and Wildlife Department
Old Texas Plaza
4100 S. Medford Dr.
Suite 204B
Lufkin, TX 75901
936-632-1311
www.tpwd.state.tx.us/



Camping

Developed recreation areas offer conveniences such as showers, restrooms and picnic facilities.

Primitive camping is allowed except in designated scenic areas or where otherwise prohibited.

During hunting season – September through January – camping is permitted only in designated camps in the Angelina, Davy Crockett, Sabine and Sam Houston National Forests. For safety's sake, always wear hunter orange during hunting season.

Pack drinking water, maps, sunscreen, insect repellent, compass, raincoat, and a first-aid kit.

Don't rely on your cell phone. There is minimal cell coverage in national forests.

Camping in the national forests is limited to 14 days during a 30-day time period.

Nature's Hazards

Copperhead, Canebreak rattlesnake, Cottonmouth, Coral and Pigmy rattlesnake are five poisonous snakes native to this area of Texas. All have triangular-shaped heads and slit-shaped pupils. Of course the best way to deal with an encounter with a snake is to not get close enough to see its eyes!

Leave snakes alone. Be careful when walking in tall grass or other places where you cannot see your feet.



Ticks and chiggers are common insects found in the woods. Ticks attach themselves to your body and can transmit diseases. If you find one on you, gently pull it off, record the date on your calendar, and notify your doctor. Chiggers, also known as redbugs, cause you to itch and are more of an irritant than a danger. Avoid sitting in grasses and directly on the forest floor, especially in pine needles. Use insect repellent.



Poison ivy makes most people break out in an itchy rash. The oils on this plant can cause an allergic reaction, with or without leaves. It is active in all seasons. The vine has roots or little hairs on it throughout the year. This, and the fact it has three leaves, is an easy way to identify the plant. Remember, "Leaves of three, let it be!"



Our national forests are a refuge for wild animals, such as bears, alligators and venomous snakes. Wild animals can be upset by human presence and can unexpectedly become aggressive. Feeding wildlife causes dependence on campers, an increase in camper disturbance and interaction, and can make wildlife more aggressive. Do not give them a reason or an opportunity to attack. Always keep your distance. Your safety is your responsibility. Observe wildlife only from a distance.

Firearms

No discharge of firearms is allowed in developed recreation areas, across from or within 150 yards of all roads, trails and camps where people are likely to be. State laws apply to all firearm use.

Motorized and Off-highway Vehicles

The National Forests and Grasslands in Texas has implemented the Travel Management Rule that requires all registered motor vehicles to be limited to designated roads shown on the Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). Depending on seasonal use, the roads on the map will be open to licensed street-legal vehicles.

OHVs riding is allowed only on the Sam Houston National Forest designated OHV trail. The 85-mile Multiple-Use Trail allows motor vehicles less than 50 inches wide. Call the Sam Houston Ranger Office at 936-344-6205 before you visit to determine if the trail is closed due to water on the trails.

Hiking, bicycling and horse back riding also are allowed on the trail.

Visit our website for MVUM maps and additional information, or call or visit the ranger's office of the forest where you are visiting (8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday).

Volunteering to help maintain trails is a great way to show your support and get involved. Contact your local Forest Service office to see how you can help.



State Regulations for OHVs

All OHVs driven on public lands in Texas (or on lands purchased through Texas Recreational Trails Grant funding) must follow these state guidelines:

- Display a current Texas OHV decal available for \$16 from Texas Parks and Wildlife. For more information on the OHV decal, visit www.tpwd.state.tx.us/spdest/ohv/ for information).
- Take an ATV Safety Rider Course and carry your certificate (call 1-800-887-2887 for information).
- Wear a D.O.T. approved helmet and eye protection.
- Do not carry passengers
- Operators under 14 years of age must be under direct supervision of parent or guardian.

Mercury Warning

Largemouth bass in Ratcliff and Boykin Springs Lakes have shown elevated levels of mercury. This is a common occurrence in area lakes. Sources may be natural and made soluble by naturally acidic soil and water. Only largemouth bass and bowfin are affected. Sunfish and channel catfish do not accumulate significant levels of



The red-cockaded woodpecker makes its home in pines throughout the National Forests in Texas.

mercury due to their food habits.

Please observe the Texas Department of Health's advisory for similar lakes in the area. Adults should limit consumption of largemouth bass from these lake to no more than two eight-ounce meals per month. Children should limit consumption of largemouth bass from this lake to no more than two four-ounce meals per month.

Target Practice

There are no target practice areas in the National Forests and Grasslands in Texas except for a designated area in the LBJ Grasslands which is open to clay pigeon shooting with shotguns.

Bringing Your Dog

In campgrounds, picnic areas, parking areas, and trailheads, your dog must be on a leash no longer than six feet and under control at all times. If you tie your dog, find a shady spot and give him a lot of attention to minimize barking which could disturb other forest visitors.

Maps

Maps and general information for each of the forests and grasslands may be purchased from ranger offices or the forest supervisor's office in Lufkin.

These maps are good for determining locations of roads, trails and other recreational sites on the districts.

Forest maps are \$10 each and wilderness maps are \$4 each.

Order forms are available on the Web at: www.fs.usda.gov/texas

Or call 936-639-8501 for more information and for postage and handling charges.



U.S. Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Southern Region

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